



The Ripline

www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/Union/BUHABS/

Supplement

2000/2001

NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISTOL UNIVERSITY HOT AIR BALLOONING SOCIETY

Welcome to a special supplementary edition of The Ripline. On this page is a reminder of the activities planned for our 15th anniversary weekend at the weekend. Please be aware that flying may have to be cancelled due to the Foot and Mouth outbreak, but please check your email for updates. On page two read about how the outbreak affects ballooning. Finally there are a few photos from our weekend of flying recently. Look forward to seeing you at the weekend.

John Burnett

BUHABS **15**TH BIRTHDAY

WEEKEND OF 10 / 11 MARCH 2001

Believe it or not, BUHABS has been flying for 15 years, in which time we have had five balloons, 15 pilots and literally over a thousand members flown. We want to make the 15 year celebrations special and are organising a weekend of events, focussed on both ballooning and socialising.

Saturday 10th March, 0630, Flight from Wills Hall, Stoke Bishop.

This will be a flight with the current BUHABS balloon, plus balloons flown by former BUHABS pilots or other friends of BUHABS, probably about ten balloons in total. (Weather permitting - a 'phone confirmation will be organised). **May be cancelled due to Foot and Mouth outbreak.**

Saturday 10th March, 1400-1800, BUHABS balloons on display at Wills Hall, Stoke Bishop.

We will get the old BUHABS balloons out for an airing and culminate with a mass inflation of all five. This will be the first time ever that all five BUHABS balloons are inflated together. Lots of crewing help needed please! There will also be tethered rides for all! Tea break at the bacon wagon nearby on the Downs. (Weather permitting, - Sunday afternoon is reserve)

Saturday 10th March, 1900 for 1930, BUHABS 15th anniversary dinner - The Muset, York Road, Clifton. (BYO). ALL PLACES NOW FULLY BOOKED, APOLOGIES.

A quality dining experience for only £17. Please note the change in time, slightly earlier than stated last issue, and that BYO extends to wine and champagne only. Call John on [REDACTED] if you require further information.

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Sunday 11th March, 1030, BUHABS champagne breakfast at The Buttery, Bristol Docks.

Bacon sandwich and a glass of bubbly provided for all that come along. (In all weathers)

Sunday 11th March, 1400-1800, Reserve slot for BUHABS balloons inflation's.

THE BUHABS AGM 2001

WEDNESDAY 07 MARCH 2001 - 1930 - EPI BAR, UNION

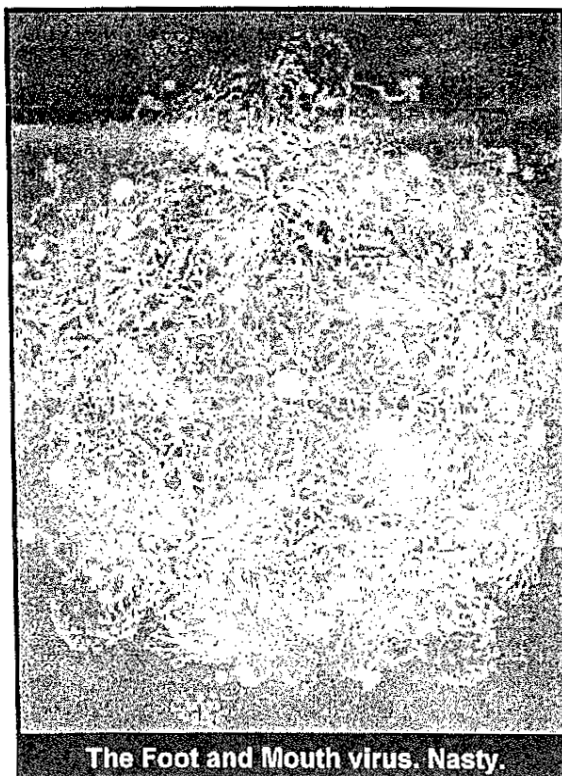
Every year union societies hold an AGM to elect a new committee for the following academic year, and it's the BUHABS AGM on Wednesday. You are all invited along to have your say about BUHABS, and also feel free to discuss any concerns you may have about the Foot and Mouth outbreak and how it may affect ballooning. For those of you who are considering joining the committee for the 2001/2002 academic year, please refer to the last edition of The Ripline (issue 5) or look on our website (below). If elected to a committee position, your role will usually commence in the Autumn term. Don't worry, no ballooning knowledge is required, I for one new diddleysquat when I joined. Look forward to seeing some of you on Wednesday.

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL - [REDACTED]

<http://www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/Union/BUHABS>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION **HOW FOOT AND MOUTH AFFECTS BALLOONING**

Over the last few weeks I am sure you will all have read about the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease. Its effects on the Farming community, as well as various sports are quite severe. Below is a quick bit about the disease and how it affects ballooning. As a result of the outbreak ballooning with BUHABS may be affected over the next few weeks, as well as our plans for the 15th anniversary. We will try and keep you informed of developments through email, and should you require any information please email Simon at the address above.



The Foot and Mouth virus. Nasty.

be assumed to be contaminated and will need to be disinfected.

Any balloon and balloonist landing on a quarantined farm will probably require decontamination. This would mean spraying of clothes and equipment (the balloon) with neat disinfectant. The other option is to burn the potentially infected material. Both of the above techniques would likely to lead to damage to a balloon(;->).

It would therefore be irresponsible for hot air balloons to be flying, as commonly landing sites are located in farms.

Foot and Mouth Disease is a viral infection. It's closest human virus relative would be polio virus, with both coming from the family of viruses Picornaviridae. Being a virus it cannot be treated by antibiotics and therefore the only control measures are in the spread of the infection. This is quite crude and involves the quarantine of infected farms the destruction of all livestock. All machinery and people that have entered the farm have to be decontaminated to prevent spread to other farms. There is no threat of infection to humans. We merely serve as a useful transmission for the virus. Any human that enters a infected farm can

At time of press WRBBAC's and BBAC's (big ballooning groups/bodies) advice was not to fly until the 9th of March. This recommendation was issued on the 23rd of February, hence cancellation of weekend flying.

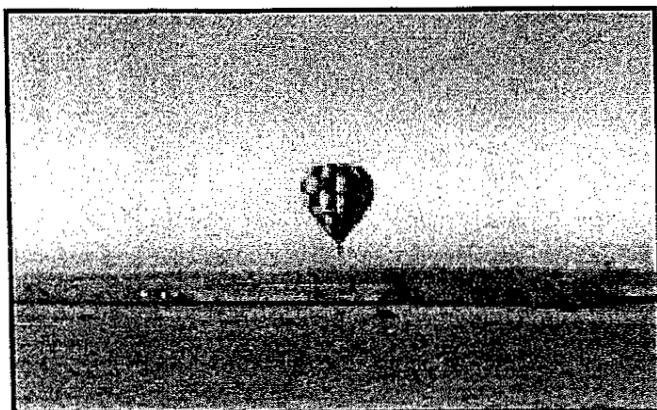
Since this recommendation there have been further outbreaks and the date to recommence flying is likely to be changed. However, hopefully for everyone in the country the disease will soon be under control. BUHABS will keep you posted by email.

As you will have read in your email, BUHABS managed a splendid weekend of flying a few weeks ago, with four flights and one during the week. Three of the flights were from the railway field near Bath and the other two from Ingleston Common. Ed Kay managed to take some photos of two of the flights, shown below. I took some too, which should be in next issue. During this time BUHABS also passed two new official drivers, Mr Ed Kay, aforementioned, and Ms Jenny Pardoe. Well done and thankyou.

FLIGHT REVIEW

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2001

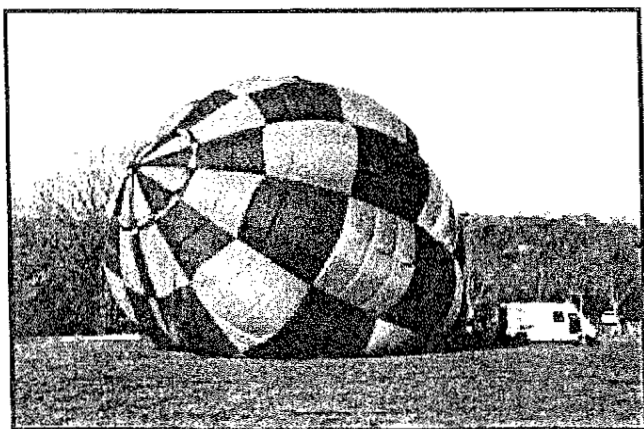
Whilst some of us were partaking in romantic activities like going to see Hannibal, some BUHABS members were able to go flying on the morning of Valentines Day. The flight was from Ingleston Common, and if I had a suitable map I could tell you where that is. It's a fair bet it's somewhere near Bristol though. Anyway, back to Hannibal, what do you all think? It's not The Silence of the Lambs, that's for sure, but I think it's a fairly good film in its own right. Splendidly gory as well, I wouldn't recommend eating before you see it though.



FLIGHT REVIEW

SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2001

This was another flight from the railway field at Bath. The reason this is such a popular sight is generally because of wind direction. The problem at Ashton Court is should the wind be blowing vaguely toward the west you run a risk of dipping in the channel. At Bath you can fly eastwards to your hearts content.



TOM LICKE'S DODGY PIC'S

<http://www.bonsaikitten.com>

Not one for all you vegetarians out there, even though one of you is the most excellent of cooks. The whole idea portrayed by this site is a bit peculiar, and I'm not sure whether I believe it or not really.

If you have any comments, queries, or quarrels with The Ripline (or if you feel like flexing your literary talents and writing an article yourself!) please don't hesitate to email me (John Burnett) at the following address: [REDACTED]